

Gonciz that Hungary enjoys the friendship and support of the Congress.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. CRAIG. I ask unanimous consent that the remainder of the time this morning and such time as may be necessary be involved in a special order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

A HISTORIC BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILL

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, last Friday night, or early Saturday morning, this Senate passed a historic budget reconciliation bill that said to our country: We heard you. We heard you. We believe you. And we are, with every effort, attempting to reduce an ever-growing Federal Government that has consumed an increasingly larger part of the gross domestic product of this country, progressively enslaving the taxpayer to a higher and higher portion of the gross work of that taxpayer.

Now, it is interesting that today is Halloween, and guess what is happening out there? The Democrats are, once again, yelling "Trick or treat, America." They are saying, "Boo," to Americans. Once again, they are trying to frighten, or use the tactic of fear in driving the American public in a direction that they have said so clearly for so long that they do not want to go.

What did we hear in the debates of last week and over the weekend, as members of the other side were speaking in opposition to the action that the Congress spoke to? They are saying that Republicans are ghouls, goblins, monsters, vampires, demons, and werewolves, as it relates to the care and concern of the people of this country. They are saying that we want to take seniors' health care away, that we want to attack low-income and working people, that we want to kick students out of college and kick poor people out on the streets, that we want to dirty the water and cause the air to be unbreathable and, of course, to let people die in industrial accidents.

How could the average American really believe that anybody who seeks public service in this country to formulate public policy would want to do any of those things? Well, I suspect you might slip a little of that by during Halloween and talk about the scariness, talk about the pranks and the tricks that are being played out there.

Let me tell you, it is not Halloween. It never will be Halloween. It should never be Halloween. What is it? It is the harvest season of the last election; that is what it is. The Republican Party heard so loudly and so clearly what the American people were saying, and we are responding. The budget resolution of last Friday evening spoke about harvesting the economic security for seniors by providing for a Medicare program that has long-term stability, so they cannot be frightened or scared into thinking that their secu-

rity is in jeopardy. It is about the harvest of more jobs by creating a productive economy, by controlling debt and deficit structure in this country that, by every economist's projection, is costing us anywhere from 2 to 2.5 percent growth in the domestic product of this country, which spells lack of opportunity or less opportunity for our young people. That is the harvest season of what the Republican Party is attempting to do, what this budget resolution is all about, and the work that will go on in the next several weeks before we put that on the desk of the President for his consideration.

What does it say in the end? It does not say, "Boo"; it does not say, "Trick or treat"; it says to the American people that there will be a higher standard of living for all, that the expectation, in a generational sense, will continue to be there for a better, more productive lifestyle in our country, because we had a Government that did not get in our way, that did not strangle the great ingenuity, humanity, and the energy of this country. That is what we are saying on this Halloween day—no trick or treat and no boos.

I am always so saddened when the other side attempts to use a cultural battle or attempts to frighten people in their effort to convince them that their policy is better than the ones we put forth. Let us debate it on its merits. Let the American people objectively decide what is best for them and then send that to us in the message that they did so clearly last November.

At this time, let me yield to my colleague from Wyoming to speak to this issue.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

A DISTORTED APPROACH TO PUBLIC POLICY

Mr. THOMAS. I rise to join my friend from Idaho to talk a little bit about what is happening. It is an appropriate day. I was in Wyoming this weekend and saw some of the ads that were clothed in masks and costumes, seeking to portray something that I think is not inherent in what we are doing here. It concerns me a great deal, not only because it represents a different point of view, but, more importantly, it represents a distorted approach to developing public policy.

If, indeed, in this country we believe that public policy should be developed by all of us participating, then those of us who participate—and that is all of us in this country—should have some facts upon which to base that public policy. So I want to talk a little bit about what I think the White House has been doing for some time and what our friends on the other side of the aisle have been doing, which has increased over this weekend, and that is to really distort what it is we are seeking to do.

Those who oppose a balanced budget have been using this mask-and-costume approach to characterize this rec-

onciliation bill that passed last week. Instead of having leadership to deal with what the issues are, there has been this use of words and, I believe, distortion, to scare people into what the impacts of this will be. This has been a marketing scheme that has been going on for some time, that has been devised, I guess, by various kinds of groups in the country, to find those words that have impact and to cause people to be frightened into thinking that a balanced budget will throw this country into turmoil, that saving and strengthening Medicare will result in turning out the elderly without health care, that reforming welfare will throw the poor into the street without support, and that allowing middle-class Americans to retain some of their own money will be a disaster.

Mr. President, I am concerned about how we govern ourselves, and that is what this country is all about. That is what democracy is about. That is why people in Greybull, WY, can participate, as well as people in New York City, in governance. In order to do that, there has to be a basis of facts. There are differences and different views, and that is perfectly legitimate. That is what it is all about. There were young people in my office last week who said: I do not understand why there is this controversy going on, or why this debate is going on. Why do we not just do what is good for America?

If we all agreed on what is good for America, there would be no debate. I suggested to them that if they went back to their senior class in Cheyenne and raised these questions, there would not be unanimity there. There are different views, and they come into play here. There are those who have quite a liberal, populist philosophy that more government is better and more taxes is better. I respect that. I do not agree with it, nor do I think the voters agreed with it in the last election. That is what it is all about.

Rather than having a campaign of fear, mistrust, and misunderstanding, we need to have a campaign of facts and then decide on it. What is the purpose of what we did? It is certainly to respond to voters—that is what government is about—to balance the budget, which is the responsible thing to do; to reform welfare, and that is the responsible thing to do.

Mr. President, I hope that we do begin to talk about the facts and that we do, from both the White House and from our friends on the other side of the aisle, have a clear debate of which way to go, but do it based on the facts and based on different views, based on leadership, direction, and based on what I think the voters have told us in the past.

Mr. President, I yield back my time.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I now would like to recognize Mr. GRAMS of Minnesota.